Times County

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Conservation Congress Iowa Co. Delegation Mr. Steve Holmes, Chair

April 10, 2006

"Citizen's Resolution for Blackhawk Lake, Iowa County, regarding a proposed bag limit and length limit rule change for Northern Pike."

Whereas, northern pike were illegally stocked in Blackhawk Lake by private citizens;

Whereas, northern pike have been naturally reproducing in Blackhawk Lake, with at least five year-classes of pike present in the lake today;

Whereas, pike can travel upstream and downstream from Blackhawk Lake to trout streams both above and below the lake;

Whereas, pike are predators at the top of the food chain and they eat trout and small walleyes;

Whereas, the DNR spends considerable sums of our license monies stocking trout in the Blackhawk Lake Watershed;

Whereas, private citizens and private citizens organizations have spent considerable sums of money stocking walleyes in Blackhawk lake;

Whereas, it is a biological fact that pike smaller than the current 26 inch length limit are capable of recruitment (spawning and bringing off a hatch);

Whereas, currently Blackhawk Lake has a 26 inch length limit and a daily bag limit of 2 pike;

Whereas, the current pike regulation for Blackhawk Lake of 26 inches in length and 2 fish daily bag limit is insufficient to significantly remove naturally reproducing pike from Blackhawk Lake;

Therefore, be it resolved, do you support removing the current 26 inch length limit on northern pike and two fish daily bag limit for Blackhawk Lake and replacing it with a no length limit and 5 pike daily bag limit?

This proposed rule change will increase consumption of pike caught from Blackhawk Lake and also reduce the numbers of pike available to spawn in the lake.

By: Doug Risch, 3774 Esch Rd., Dodgeville, WI 53533

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